



**PROJECT:** Illinois and Michigan Canal, IL

**AUTHORIZATION:** WRDA 1992 (Sec. 314)

**TYPE:** Navigation Channels and Harbors - Study

**DESCRIPTION:** The project is located along the I&M Canal National Heritage Corridor, which extends from Navy Pier and Calumet Harbor in Chicago 120 miles to LaSalle/Peru, Ill. The National Heritage Corridor was designated by Congress in 1984. The purpose of the project is to provide industrial growth and commercial revitalization through capital improvement efforts, and to enhance the cultural, historical, natural, recreational and economic resources of the corridor. Approximately 24 projects have been identified for implementation along the I&M Canal Corridor ranging from planning to construction stages, totaling over \$120 million.

**CURRENT STATUS:** The Reconnaissance report, completed in February 1995, evaluated cultural, historical, natural and recreational resources and prioritized 24 projects for implementation.\*\* A total of \$25,000 was reprogrammed in FY 96 for preparing scoping documents for higher priority projects identified in the recon. report. In FY97, a total of \$268,000 was reprogrammed to initiate planning/plans and specifications work for Chicago Portage, I&M Canal Prism Restoration from Joliet to Seneca (IL), Lockport I&M Canal Restoration, Summit Bike Path, and Wayfinding/Signage.

**PLANNED WORK:**

**FY 00**

- Complete planning/plans and specifications work for Chicago Portage and prepare final report for Chicago Portage, I&M Canal Prism Restoration from Joliet to Seneca, Lockport I&M Canal Restoration, Summit Bike Path and Wayfinding/Signage projects.

**FY 01**

- No additional work is planned on this project.

**PROJECT COSTS:**

Total Project Cost N/A

**BENEFITS:** N/A

**LOCAL SPONSOR:** Cook County Forest Preserve District, City of Lockport, Summit Park District and Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

**ISSUES/CONCERNS:**

- Some of the project outputs are primarily recreational and not considered high priority for budgetary purposes.

**PROJECT MANAGER:** Phil Bernstein

\*\*Potential future projects: Chinatown Park, Chicago Riverwalk, Chicago Canal Origins Park and Pullman Historical Site; Channahon Bikepath/Walkway; Chicago Portage Site Interpretive Center; Joliet West Riverfront Promenade and Broadway Street Greenway.